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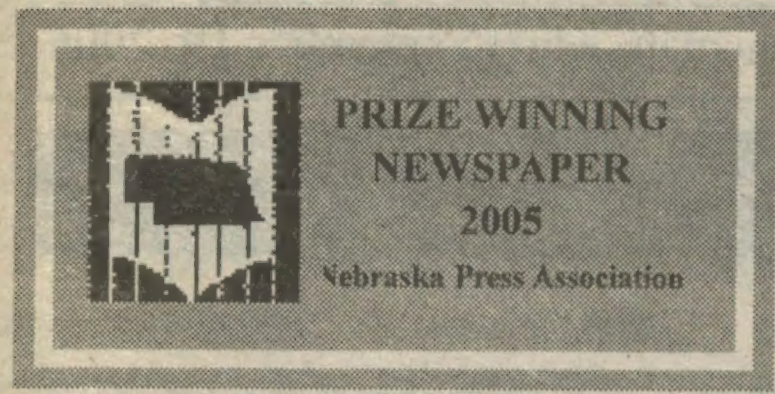
THE UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA AT OMAHA'S STUDENT NEWSPAPER SINCE 1913

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TUESDAY

September 19, 2006



Nancy Belck: Go forward and do the best you can

ANGI SADA
EDITOR IN CHIEF

Nancy Belck still refers to the business and success of University of Nebraska at Omaha as "ours." She still says "we" when talking about the future of UNO as if it is still progressing under her leadership.

But nine years at the helm came to a grinding halt when she resigned on Sept. 12, marking the end of her tenure as the first woman to lead the metropolitan campus and ending a tenuous summer. That summer will be remembered as one of controversy and empty offices.

"What made me make the decision to resign is the story just wasn't dying," she said with her miniature dachshund, Cesar, curling up in her lap.

She said the real fervor over the spending started with a Tom Shatel column in the June 23 *Omaha World Herald*. The evolution of the story from the sports pages to the front pages really motivated Belck to re-examine her future with the university.

"[The media coverage] just wasn't good for the university," she said.



Nancy Belck

"At some point, I think, you have to assess, 'Can you continue to lead effectively?' I'm proud of the nine years I've had here, but it is clearly time for someone else to take the leadership role."

Belck said she clearly remembers the beginning of the end. It started with a conference call with other heads of schools in the North Central Conference and what she calls "the unraveling of the conference."

"If you ask what really started this, it was about athletics. It was about the budget running \$1 million short to the base and everybody wanted to know why the deficit wasn't more public," she said.

The deficit wasn't more public because she maintains that she was unaware that the prior athletics director, Bob Danenhauer, was covering the deficit with funds from the alumni reserves available to him. Those accounts were not under Belck's oversight because they aren't state funds. The use of these funds led to budgets that were balanced on reports that she saw, but in the end were not fully balanced. That was not discovered until Danenhauer resigned in the fall of 2004.

Five positions were eliminated from the athletics department in June, including the role of associate director, a position held by Deb Denbeck, as an attempt to balance the budget. While on campus, Denbeck spent much of her time cultivating the women's athletics programs.

Belck's resignation was the last of many summer vacancies created as the dust settled around a crumbling athletics department budget. She and longtime colleague

See **BELCK:** Page 12

Intramural flag football



photo by Patrick Doty

Marc Badalucco catches a pass at an intramural football game at the Al Caniglia Field on Sunday night. Badalucco's team, the McNasties, defeated their opponents, SPAM, 19-0.

Student Senate names new VP, approves spending

Student Senate

SCOTT STEWART
NEWS EDITOR

Student government allocated thousands of dollars and appointed new leadership during its last senate session before the October campus-wide election.

James Hulstein, an appointed senator for the College of Education, was named to replace outgoing vice president VaShawn Smith. Citing a lack of time to commit, Smith resigned at the Aug. 31 senate meeting.

Speaker Aaron Gilliland presented Hulstein's appointment to the senate, because President/Regent Steve Massara was attending an American Student Government Association conference in Washington, D.C.

"We are currently at a critical juncture in the term for vice president, and James' strong work ethic and availability will help alleviate backlog," Massara said in prepared comments. "I trust and greatly enjoy working with a man of such high caliber as I truly believe he will fulfill all obligations set before him."

After confirming his appointment, the senate considered a resolution submitted by Hulstein to allocate \$1,800 for the purchase of a 37-inch television for the Kayser Hall second-floor lounge.

Hulstein defended the measure, saying "it's

better than spending \$250 on a trophy," referring to the Curulis award also considered by senators at Thursday's meeting.

The senate approved the measure after assurances from Hulstein that the final cost would be about \$300 less than the allocated amount.

Senators also allocated \$2,300 to send student government leaders to the American Student Government Association's regional conference in Chicago.

"The university is no longer considering students on university trips a general good for the university, so they will not cover the expenses under Fund B [student fee allocations]," Gilliland said, explaining why student government allocated the money itself.

Fund B is the portion of student fees that covers a wide array of student services, including athletics, musical groups and Student Health Services.

At the end of the meeting, senators also listened to remarks by Wade Robinson, associate vice chancellor for academic affairs, regarding the allocation of Fund B student fees money following the recent resignation of Chancellor Nancy Belck and Vice Chancellor Jim Buck.

Student government leaders said they plan to continue exploring how Fund B allocations are made and whether students have sufficient say in student fee distributions.

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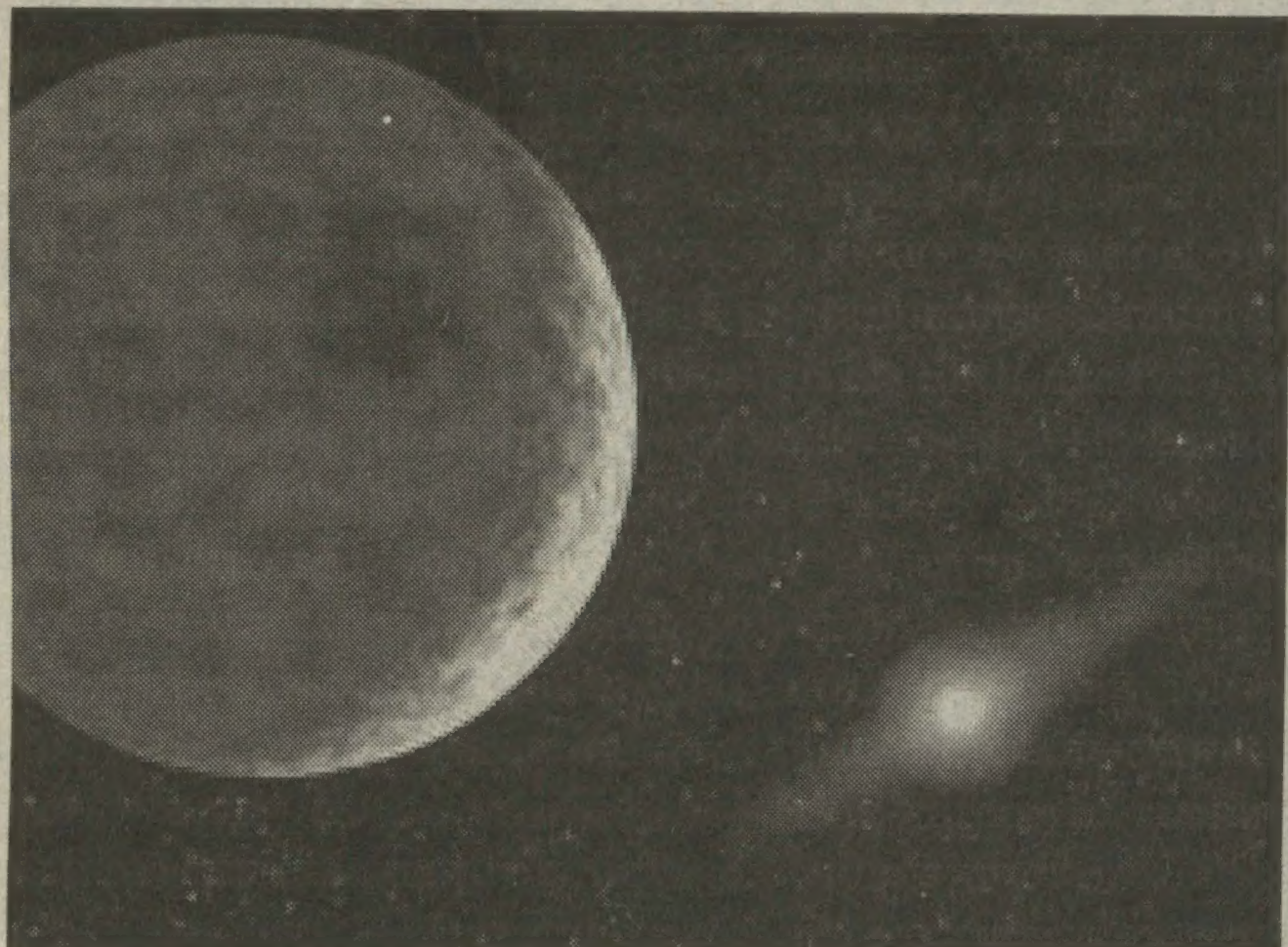
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Pluto's demise: Dwarf planets cause confusion



NASA

This artist's conception shows the largest dwarf planet, 2003UB313, which was discovered on Jan. 8, 2005.

PATRICK DOTY
LINE EDITOR/ASST. PHOTO EDITOR

There are only eight planets in the solar system, following Pluto's recent demotion by the scientific community.

Astronomers from around the world met at the 26th general assembly of the International Astronomical Union in Prague on Aug. 24. Of the six resolutions adopted at the assembly, the final two sent confusion and conflicting opinions across the world.

Resolutions 5 and 6, entitled "Definition of a Planet in the Solar System" and "Pluto," respectively, attempt to set a concrete classification system to every object in our solar system.

"Contemporary observations are changing our understanding of planetary systems, and it is important that our nomenclature for objects reflect our current understanding," reads Resolution 5. "The word 'planet' originally described 'wanderers' that were known only as moving lights in the sky. Recent discoveries lead us to create a new definition."

The resolution then puts everything that orbits the sun into four classifications: planets, dwarf planets, satellites and "small solar system bodies."

"We didn't have a real firm classification system originally," said Al Dorn, a member of the UNO Planetarium staff. "Based on our technology in

See **PLUTO**: Page 3

Campus celebrates U.S. Constitution this week

UNO will be celebrating the signing of this important historical document with activities this week. All activities are free and open to the public.

Tuesday, Sept. 19

"Pushing the Limits: Your First Amendment Rights in the New Century"

7 p.m., University Library

Wednesday, Sept. 20

"Reading Lolita in Tehran: A Memoir in Books"

7:15 p.m., Milo Bail Student Center Ballroom

Thursday, Sept. 21

"It is Broken but No One Wants to Fix It: A Call for Constitutional Reform"

2:30 p.m. to 4 p.m., Milo Bail Student Center Gallery Room

Friday, Sept. 22

"Our Constitution: A Conversation with Supreme Court Justices Sandra Day O'Connor and Stephen Breyer"

2 p.m. to 4 p.m., Milo Bail Student Center Council Room

Season tickets available for theatre productions

The UNO Theatre Department will host five productions during its 2006-07 season. Tickets for these productions are now available for \$40 for general public or \$30 for UNO faculty, staff, students and senior citizens. To purchase tickets, call 554-2406 or stop by room 315A in the Weber Fine Arts Building.

The 2006-07 theatre schedule is as follows:

Oct. 5-7, 11-14

Man of LaMancha by Dale Wasserman, Joe Darion and Mitch Leigh

Nov. 16-18, Nov. 29-Dec. 2

Hamlet by William Shakespeare

Feb. 22-24, Feb. 28-March 3

Nickel and Dimed by Joan Holden

News You Can Use

March 29-31

Student Showcase (free to subscribers)

April 12-14, 18-21

Our Country's Good by Timerlake Wertenbaker

Latino Heritage Month continues this week

Celebration of Latino Heritage Month kicked off last Saturday, Sept. 16, but will continue through Nov. 2. The next event, *Marimba Orquesta América*, will take place on Wednesday, Sept. 20 from noon to 1 p.m. in the Milo Bail Student Center Plaza.

Other heritage events include:

Tuesday, Oct. 3

Vygotsky and Funds of Knowledge: Approaching Cultural Resources for Teaching and Learning

4:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m., Alumni Center Bootstrapper Hall

Wednesday, Oct. 4

I Love America, Lydia Ramirez's one-woman play

Noon to 1 p.m., Milo Bail Student Center Nebraska Room

Friday, Oct. 6

OLLAS Charla Film Series: "Three Burials of Melquiades Estrada"

6 p.m., Eppley Administration Building Auditorium

Wednesday, Oct. 18

Ofrenda Workshop and Dia de los Muertos Ofrenda Installation

5 p.m., Weber Fine Arts Building Art Gallery

Thursday, Nov. 2

Dia de los Muertos Celebration

11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m., Weber Fine Arts Building Art Gallery

UNO job fair to be held Sept. 17

Union Pacific, Walgreens, ConAgra, First National Bank of Omaha, Gallup and UPS are among participants in this year's UNO Fall Job Fair.

The fair will be held from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Wednesday, Sept. 27 in the Milo Bail Student Center.

Professional interview attire is expected. For pre-registration information, visit unococe.unomaha.edu.



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Write-in wins rare, difficult

TAYLOR MULLER
ASST. NEWS/SPORTS EDITOR

With the election season fast approaching, political debate, campaigning and posters are all common. However, what can a hopeful candidate do if they missed the Sept. 1 deadline for inclusion on the ballot?

Dave Phipps, Douglas County election commissioner, explained that although write-in candidates are rare, they're much more serious than perennial write-in candidate Mickey Mouse.

"To be a write-in candidate is a fairly easy process, just have to fill out a notarized form and pay the required fees," said Phipps. "This year I think there was one or two around the state, none in Douglas County. It's not very common. It's a very difficult way to win an election."

What makes write-in campaigns so difficult to win is that the candidate's name will not appear on the ballot. The voters will be required to remember the candidate's name.

Phipps said that write-in candidates on a state or regional level were usually a reaction to a controversy late in an election season. The decision to become a write-in candidate would then be a form of protest.

"Most people have trouble remembering who's who, and then to remember to write somebody in is tough," said Phipps. "You can sign up as a write-in much closer to the election than a regular candidate, though; that's

usually why people do."

Write-in campaigns can be more viable in geographically smaller elections. For example, senior marketing student Matt Cade is running for a position in the UNO student government as a write-in candidate.

He's not worried about the possibility for a tougher campaign, saying he would just have to increase his public image.

"I think [being a write-in] does cause some problems so that will just make me work even harder and get my name out there and make it more memorable," said Cade. "I plan on going to talk to a few organizations."

Cade recently signed up to run for the senior class representative in student government after his friends encouraged him to run for office.

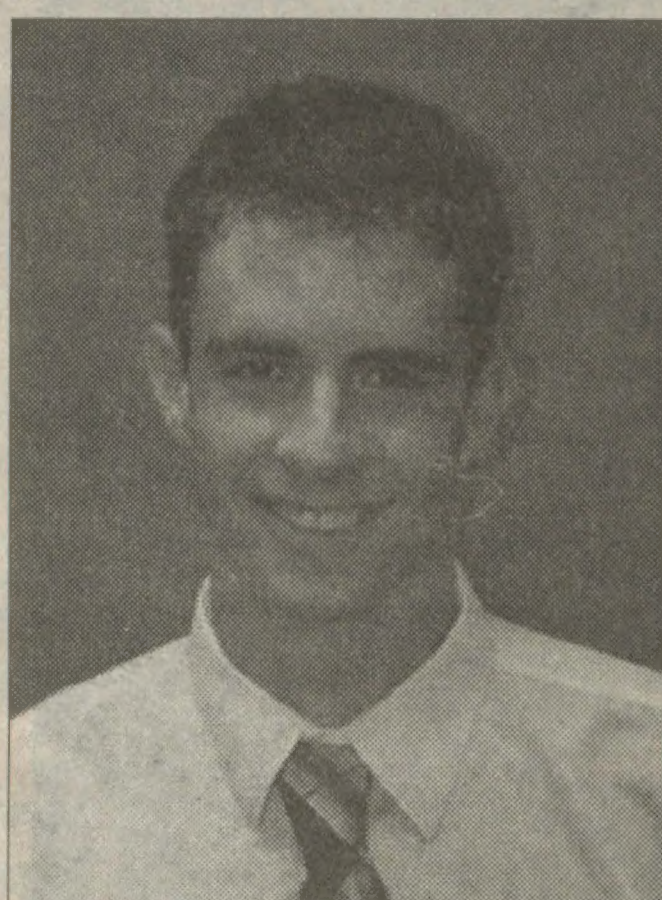
"I wasn't planning on running but my friends kept telling me to get involved," said Cade.

After his work on his campaign so far, Cade said he was glad he chose to get involved through student government and encouraged others to give

the write-in a try.

"It's not too complicated when you get into the process and ask questions," said Cade. "I think it's important to get involved on campus, whether it's student government or not, it's the most important part of college."

Anyone interested in running as a write-in candidate should contact the appropriate election commissioner for more information on that race's specific procedures.



Matt Cade

From *PLUTO*: Page 2

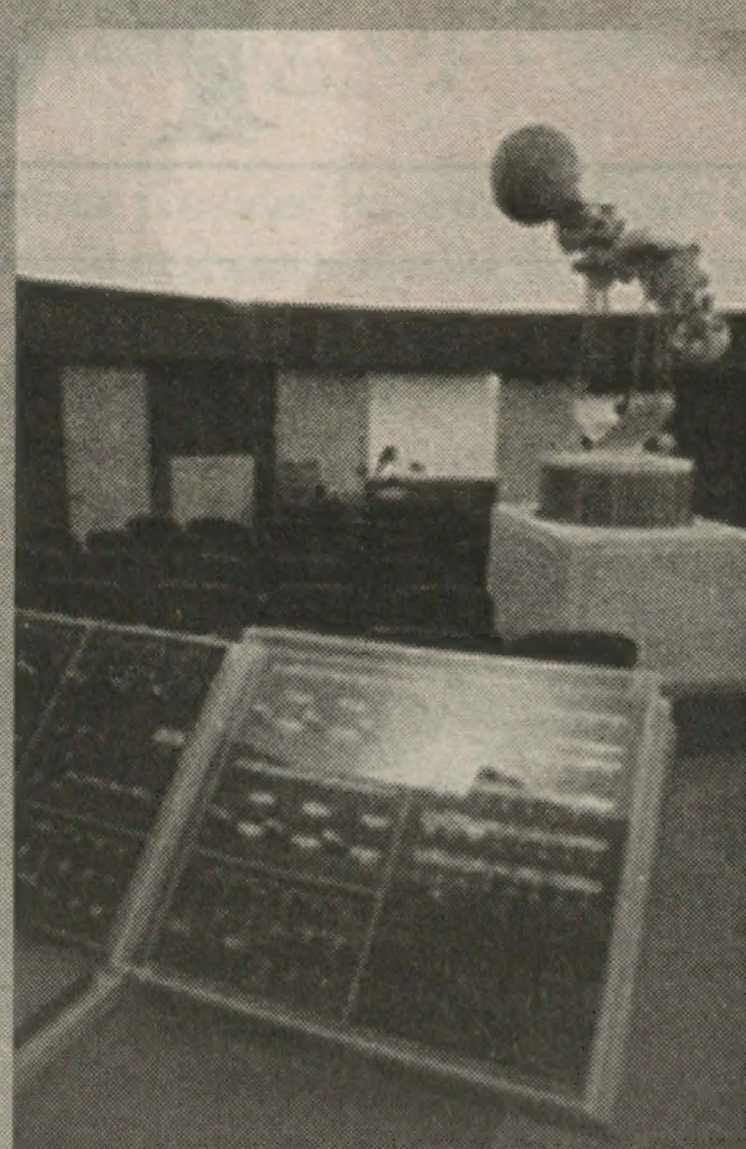


photo by Patrick Doty

The UNO Planetarium will be re-opening in Oct. after being closed for a year of renovations.

1930, it made sense. Based on our technology improvements since 1950, 1970, 1990—it looks less and less like a planet the more we know about it."

The differences between planets and dwarf planets, according to Resolution 5, is that a planet has "cleared the neighborhood around its orbit," whereas a dwarf planet has many asteroids and other objects near its orbit.

The problem with the IAU's decision, Dorn said, is the vagueness of the classifications.

"For a scientific body, [the IAU] doesn't give us a real firm scientific definition," he said. "A dwarf planet by definition is not a planet, but then again by definition it is a planet. That's where the conflict in science comes in; we're defining something by saying what it is not."

Some astronomers discussed

the possibility of using size of the object or distance from the sun for classification, but these ideas were rejected for a system that would allow classifying objects in other solar systems as well as our own.

While Dorn said many astronomy students have been "receptive yet curious" about IAU's resolutions, some UNO students think it was a bad idea.

"I think it's all about the profits they can make off of new books and maps; to me it's all financial," said Craig Brickey, an elementary education major at UNO. "I think it will be interesting what perspective (elementary) teachers take on it; they can or cannot work with it if they want, they have their own opinion. I think it will be more difficult for kids than adults."

Dorn has a different theory about children learning about the new classification system. He thinks teachers will give Pluto the same amount of importance as before the resolutions for a few years because of "emotional attachments," but it all depends on how it is approached.

"If you take a 5-year-old and tell them that Pluto is a planet, they will believe that Pluto is a planet," he said. "If you tell them it is a special class of planet, they will believe that."

The UNO Planetarium, which has been closed for a year of renovation and repair, will try to help with the education process by updating its shows to include the IAU's system when it reopens in October, but will not have any specific shows explaining the new concept.

Even if the IAU decides to change the classification system again, Dorn said, "Pluto will always be Pluto. Nothing will change that."

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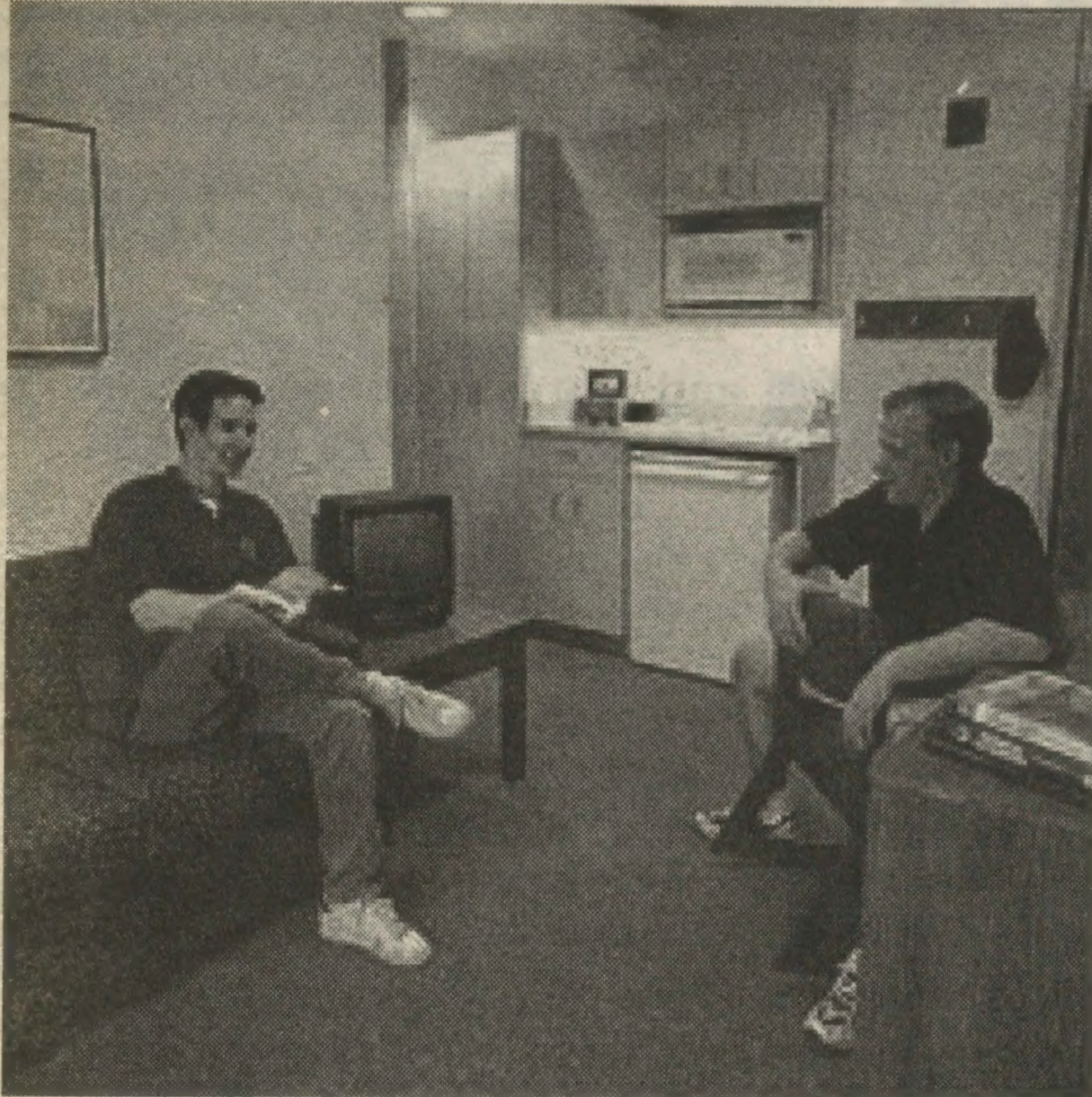
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Student's opinions differ for campus housing options



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Scott Residence Hall is one of the three on-campus housing options for students.

CHARLEY REED
ASST. A&L/PEOPLE EDITOR

The school year has been in swing for several weeks and, in addition to their classes, many students are settling in to new living arrangements in one of several on-campus housing options offered at UNO.

Many freshmen are finding ways to grow accustomed to their residences, while a number of other undergraduates are experiencing their first year in another building after transferring from one housing facility to another.

Freshman Brian Dimmel lived his first year in South Campus' Scott Hall, but moved only several yards away and is spending this year residing at Scott Village.

"When I would come over [to Scott Village] to study there was a lot more of a community feeling, people left their doors open and you met more people," Dimmel said. "It felt more like a college experience."

Dimmel isn't alone. One floor below him in Scott Village's Building D is sophomore Mary McGinty, who moved to UNO's newest housing community after spending a year at University Village on North Campus. McGinty cited the same lack of community as one of the things that she noticed is different. "You can leave your door open and people come by to say 'hi,'" McGinty said. "At UV, it was closed and you could never leave your door open because it was [facing] outside."

Jonathan Orlich, the property manager of both Scott Hall and Scott Village, said

that moves between his two buildings are common because of how different they are.

"I think our situation is a little bit different in that the Scott Residence Hall is primarily for the recipients of the Suzanne and Walter Scott Foundation scholarship," he said. "The ones that are not scholarship recipients that would like move next door, typically it's because of size. But it goes back and forth, too, because there are students that like more of a quiet atmosphere, like more of a studious atmosphere, and really like having the cafeteria so close."

The differences between the three options are due largely in part to the advancements campus housing has made the last decade. Starting in the fall of 1999, in UNO's ongoing move to distance itself from the stigma of being a "commuter campus," the first campus dormitories, called University Village, opened. These four-bedroom, two-bathroom apartment style units are UNO's oldest set of dorms and remain the largest, housing a constant number of 556 students every semester.

Scott Hall was the companion piece to University Village, opening only a year later. UNO's only true dormitory hall was made smaller than University Village, designed to be a more academically friendly facility aimed at students of the newly-constructed Peter Kiewit Institute. The four-bedroom, one-bathroom dormitory units of Scott Hall, and the adjoining Scott Conference Center, house 156 students a year.

Three years later brought the opening of Scott Village, consisting of 10 buildings with 12 large four-bedroom, two-bathroom apartments that consistently maintain 480 students. Not content to stop there, earlier this year a plan to add a 400-bed set of dorms North Campus housing was approved by the Nebraska Board of Regents and is scheduled to be added in 2007; the second stage of that plan is the addition of an 800-bed setup on South Campus.

Orlich sees a lot that can be learned from current student experiences, like Dimmel's and McGinty's, when designing the future housing additions. "There's going to be a point where you can't just get bigger and bigger, it's got to be more [about] quality," Orlich said. "The amenities

that are provided have to be always at their best; there really has to be some real, true value to what everybody's paying and it's got to be offered more-so than what they can get off campus." While amenities and furnishings are on Orlich's mind as things that are necessary, students like junior Michael Whitney have more invested in maximizing other benefits.

Whitney, originally a Scott Village resident, moved to University Village in the fall of 2005 when he was given the opportunity to be a resident advisor, and has found other benefits that outweigh material ones. "The biggest differences [between Scott Village and University Village] are parking and location," Whitney said. "Scott Village is not pressed for parking, but you can never get over leaving your dorm room and walking straight to your class the way God intended college to be."

Another important factor for many is cost. For McGinty, it was the hidden costs and unexpected stress of collecting bill payments from fellow roommates.

"[Scott Village] is nicer, it's bigger and all the amenities are included," McGinty said. "Last year we had to pay an \$85 gas bill. All the roommates would be late and you'd get stuck with the bill the whole time." Orlich said that students need to find a fit that works best for them; however, if given a choice between living off campus or on campus, he says there is no question that on-campus housing has benefits that just can't be replicated. "You get more of a bonding with fellow residents, with fellow students," Orlich said. "I think the study atmosphere is better, the social atmosphere is better, it's more of a well-rounded college experience. I think that's the real key of being on campus."

The low down on campus housing

Scott Village by the numbers

Rent - \$405/month or \$4,680/year, \$250 deposit
Furnishings - Each 1,242 square foot suite includes: four bedrooms, two bathrooms, living room, full kitchen, Internet connections and cable outlets in each bedroom and living room, gated entry parking, basketball court, volleyball court and secured access to residence buildings.
Commons Building - Study room, laundry facilities, vending machines, game room with foosball and pool table, fully furnished television lounge, mailboxes, ATM and copy/fax machines.
Provided Services - Optional meal plans, free shuttle, maintenance, furniture, plumbing, grounds keeping, garbage disposal, cable, Internet, gas, electric and phone connection.

University Village by the numbers

Rent - \$3,240/academic year (plus \$324 for furniture) or \$4,176/full year (plus \$432 for furniture).
Furnishings - Each 876 square foot suite includes: four bedrooms, two bathrooms, living room, full kitchen, Internet connections and cable outlets in each bedroom and living room, gated entry parking and secured access to residence buildings.
Commons Building - Fully furnished television lounge, vending machines, mailboxes, laundry services and a barbeque pavilion.
Provided Services - Maintenance, plumbing, grounds keeping and garbage disposal.

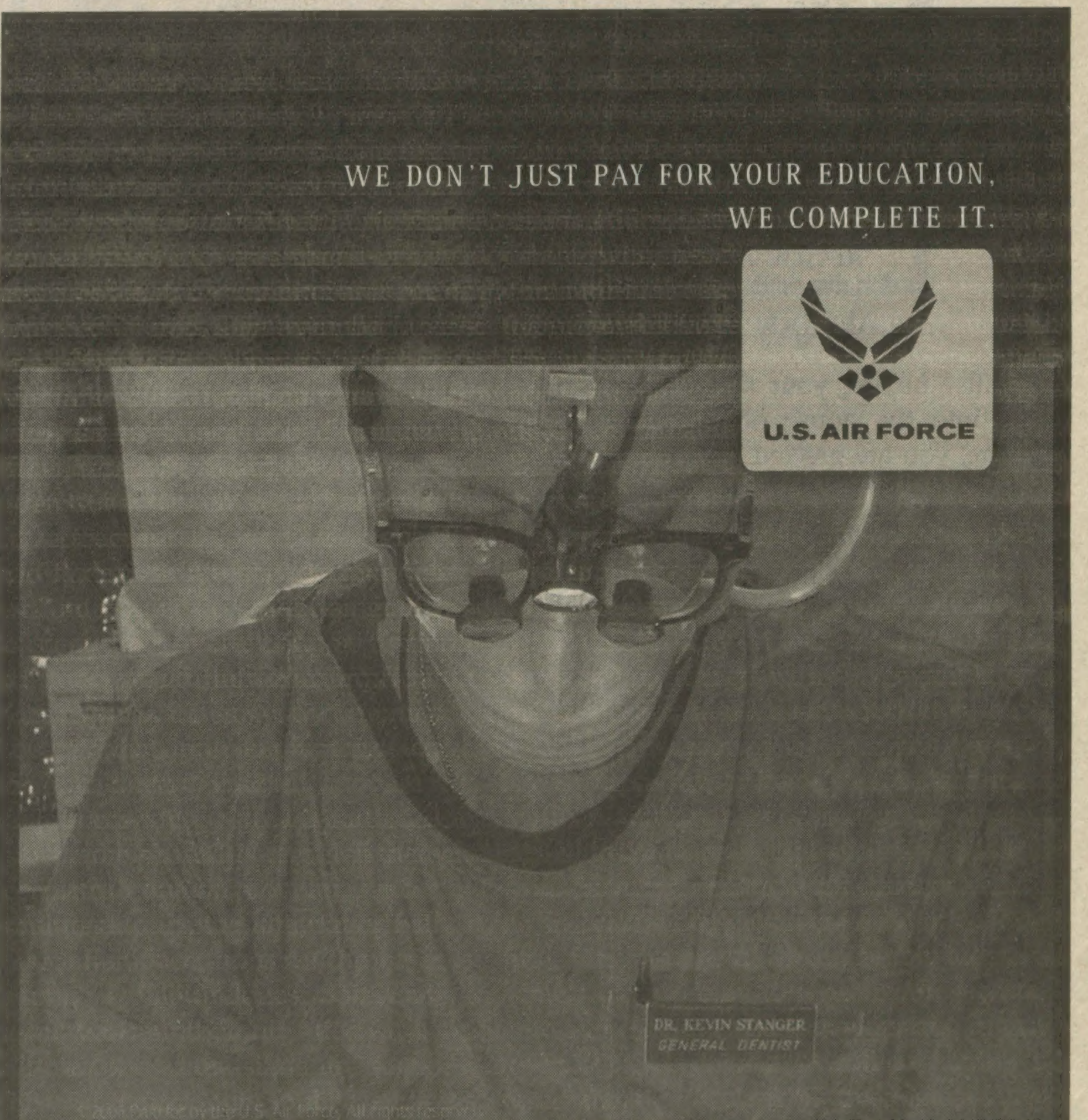
Scott Hall by the numbers

Rent - \$3,375/semester or \$6,750/year.
Furnishings - Each 890 square foot suite includes: four bedrooms, one bathroom, living room, mini-fridge, microwave, Internet connections and cable outlets in each bedroom and living room, gated entry parking, access to food court and secured access to residence buildings.
Commons Building - Exercise room, full game room and lounge, study lounge with Internet access, laundry facilities, vending machines, ATMs and fully furnished television lounges for each floor.
Provided Services - Unlimited meal plan, free shuttle, maintenance, furniture, plumbing, grounds keeping, garbage disposal, cable, Internet, gas, electric and phone connection.

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Zach Braff's *The Last Kiss* is filled with frustrating, engaging characters

REVIEW BY
RYAN RAKOWSKY
STAFF WRITER

If there was ever an indictment of marriage, *The Last Kiss* is it.

Acclaimed *Crash* screenwriter Paul Haggis and director Tony Goldwyn tell the story of Michael (Zach Braff), a Wisconsin architect and his three childhood buddies. All of whom are pushing 30 and are reluctant to grow up and settle down as family men.

Haggis makes his presence known through the interwoven, sprawling narratives of these friends, their significant others, their parents and even their offspring. *The Last Kiss* is an ambitious film but, much like *Crash*, it is saddled with too many plotlines for any to truly take root.

It doesn't help that I found myself rooting against some of the primary characters (one in particular) who were meant for me to be advocating.

The Last Kiss is stuffed full of flawed, frustrating characters. As if the sometimes selfish and irresponsible boys weren't enough of a pain, their naggy women are annoyingly needy and constantly begging for reassurance, especially Michael's newly pregnant girlfriend, Jenna (Jacinda Barrett). Theirs is the central relationship, and Jenna is completely baffled by Michael's avoidance of marriage. Michael says he won't marry her unless she can name three couples



Paul Haggis' new film, *The Last Kiss*, is about Michael, played by Zach Braff (right), and his three childhood friends who are all struggling with the idea of hitting 30.

she knows personally who have been married longer than 10 years. There's hell to pay when Michael tells her the truth—that he doesn't want to marry

in part because it feels so "final."

Enter "The O.C."s Rachel Bilson as a flirtatious young coed, whom Michael meets at a friend's wedding,

and you have the ingredients for the relationship *Perfect Storm*.

The only other story that registers on the emotional scale is that of Jenna's parents, nicely played by Blythe Danner and Tom Wilkinson, a long-married couple whose relationship hits turbulence of its own, having turned stale and routine following years of poor communication. The valve that controls the flow of emotions between them has rusted shut.

The other boys in Michael's circle of friends include an unhappily married new dad (Casey Affleck), a lost and jilted burnout (Michael Weston) and a party-hardy player (Eric Christian Olsen). Each handles his limited screen time well.

Braff is not as convincing here as he was in his far superior *Garden State*, but his scenes arguing with Barrett ring true. Bilson's first appearance on the big screen is a success, though it shows that she's still finding her way in a new medium.

Though the characters are self-centered and not always likable, *The Last Kiss* is an engaging enough film. A fair warning should be issued too. For anyone trying to convince their commitment-phobic partner to wed: There's no way this film will help your cause, so you'd be better off not making it your date night activity.

Grade: B

Blue Barn Theatre's new show *Pillowman* keeps you up at night

REVIEW BY
CHARLEY REED
ASST. A&L/PEOPLE EDITOR

After buying your ticket, when you walk into the house of the Blue Barn Theatre, you are greeted by a foggy haze of smoke, a small, enclosed seating area, and a man sitting on a stage, blindfolded and fidgeting.

Meanwhile, you find a seat to enjoy the show in and you sit there, taking in the scene, unsure of why this man is blindfolded on stage and how you should feel about it. This is the first of many disturbing aspects of *The Pillowman*, a Tony-nominated play that recently made its premiere in Omaha at the Blue Barn Theatre under the direction of Susan Clement-Toberer.

The play stars Hughston Walkinshaw as Katurian, a man on trial for several murders; Jim McKain as Tupoluski, the head detective in Katurian's case; UNO graduate Vincent Catson as Ariel, Tupoluski's assistant; Ben Birkholtz as Michal, Katurian's brother, also a murder suspect, and seventh-grader Bailey Newman as "Girl," playing the part of the mute girl that Katurian and his brother are accused of killing.

The Pillowman is a seriously dark and vulgar comedy presentation that indirectly asks the audience many unusual questions that need to be asked. More importantly,

it presents, in a direct way, many morally precarious questions that you're not going to find in a typical play.

Ethical debates involving obligation to family, sacrificing yourself for your work and how objectively one person can judge another all come up in *Pillowman* and, just like a true work of art, it never answers those questions for you. The Blue Barn's presentation of *The Pillowman* is powerful because of two key aspects: the actors and the set direction.

There was not a single flawed performance in *The Pillowman*, but the two stand-out performances were Walkinshaw's and McKain's. Walkinshaw as Katurian plays the gamut of emotions from fear and anger to love and apathy all in the span of a two-and-a-half-hour performance. McKain's passive-aggressive interrogation coupled with his humorous, but brutally honest, assessment of Katurian's situation, as well as his own, are some of the most poignant.

The simplistic stage setup manages to successfully sustain the play for its runtime. In fact, it's the projection screen, which is used to portray several of Katurian's stories, that is used most successfully.

The art direction done on the videos, especially the one for the video presentation/dream sequence of "The Writer and the Writer's Brother" was the



Daniel Lorca (left), Mathew Caws and Ira Elliot are *Nada Surf*. They will be playing at the Sokol Underground Thursday night at 8 p.m. Tickets are available at onepercentproductions.com for \$10.

Nada Surf rides wave of popularity

ANGI SADA
EDITOR IN CHIEF

Nada Surf drummer Ira Elliot is my new BFF.

When I called him at his Brooklyn home, he was just beginning the process of making his morning cup of coffee at 2 p.m. You'd think he'd be slow on the uptake

without that first jolt of caffeine. But, Elliot talks roughly 6,932 miles per minute and is so quick to subject bounce that I almost lost track of him and the fact that I was supposed to be working.

Talking to him was like catching up with a classmate from high school or the kid I used to beat up for his collection-plate money: a little exciting and a little too weird

See *PILLOWMAN*: Page 11

See *NADA SURF*: Page 11

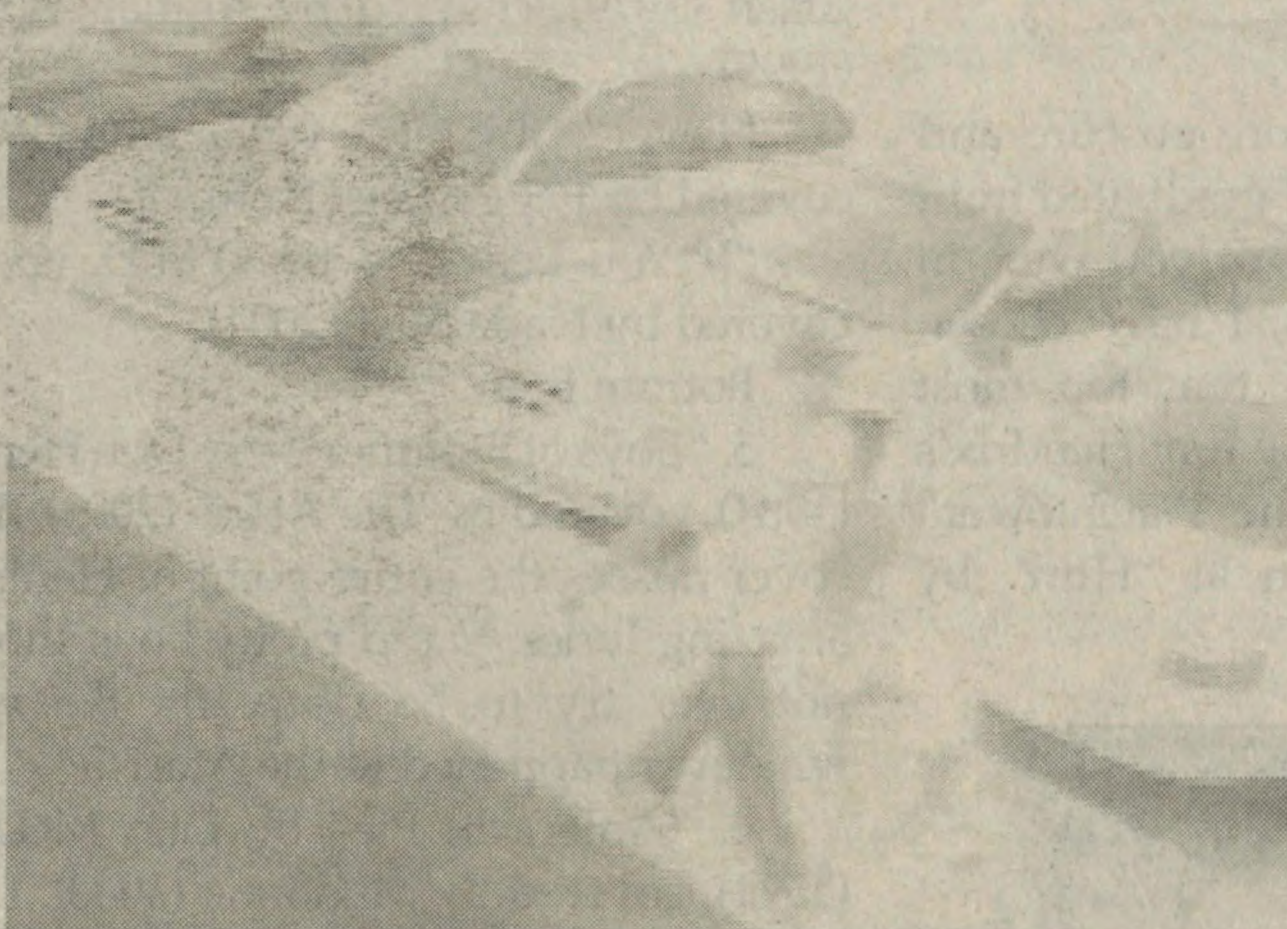
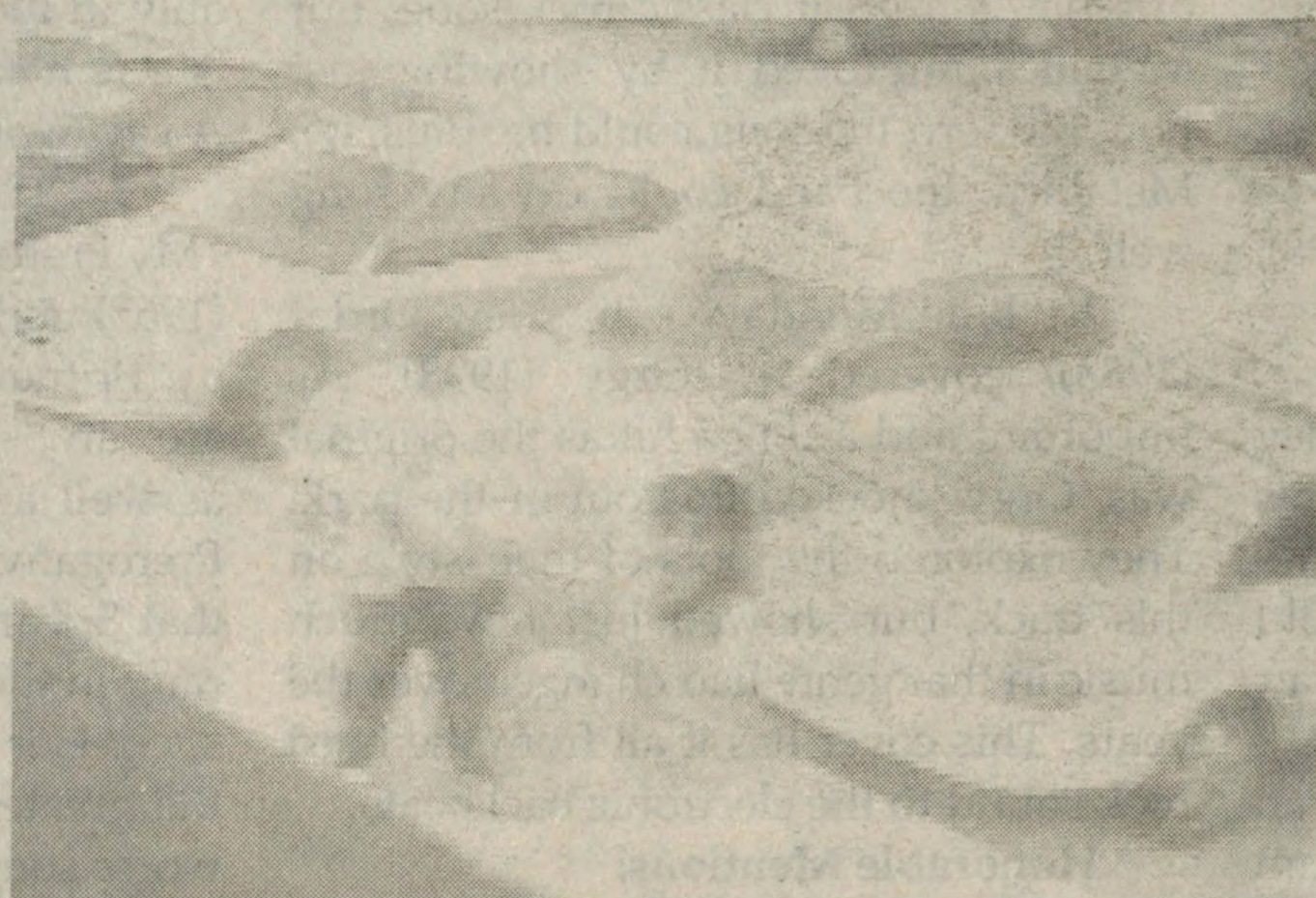


CAMPUS CRIME ALERT!

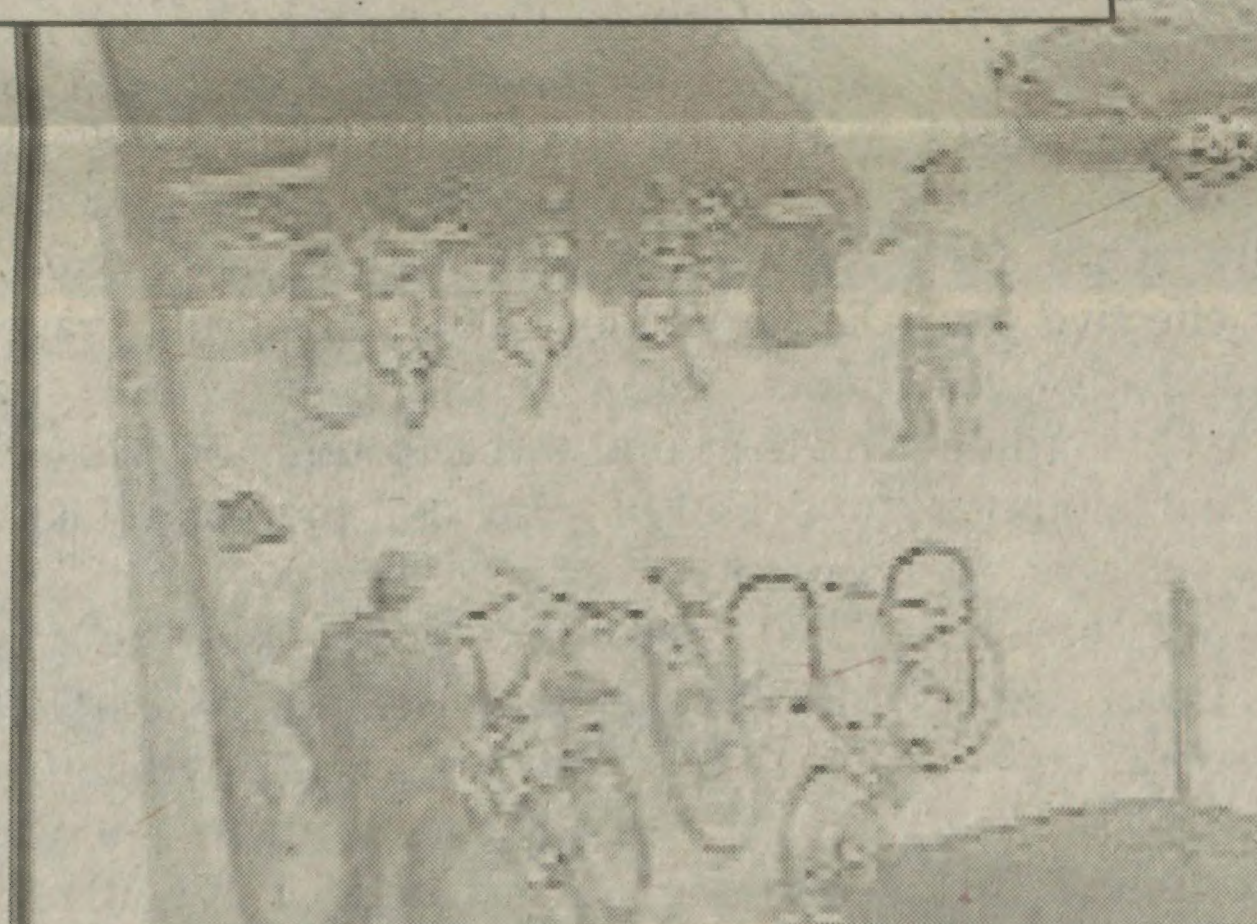


Recently, the UNO campus has had several reports of bicycle thefts.

THE FOLLOWING ARE PHOTOS OF SUSPECTS IN THOSE THEFTS:



**IF YOU HAVE ANY INFORMATION THAT MAY
LEAD TO THE IDENTITY OF THE PERSON(S)
RESPONSIBLE FOR THESE THEFTS, PLEASE CALL
CAMPUS SECURITY AT 554-2648.**



Between Tuesday, September 5, 2006 and Tuesday, September 12, 2006, five bicycles were stolen from the Scott Residence Hall/Scott Village areas.

Tuesday, September 5, 2006, a bicycle was stolen from the University Library bike rack.

Tuesday, September 12, 2006, a bicycle was stolen from the Northwest corner of the Strauss Performing Arts Center.

Tuesday, September 12, 2006, a bicycle was stolen from the Durham Science Center bike rack.

You can follow these suggestions to reduce your chances of becoming a victim of this type of crime:



1. Always lock your bike to a bike rack
2. Use a good quality case-hardened or hardened U-bolt lock
3. Secure the U-bolt lock through the bike frame, the rear wheel, and the bike rack. If possible, remove the front wheel and secure it with the rear wheel and frame.
4. Engrave your drivers license number onto the bike frame.
5. Record the serial number of the bike and keep it where you can find it later.

Sometimes a cover song is so amazing it surpasses the original in sales, on the charts and in the hearts and minds of the music-listening public. Unfortunately, there are times when these attempts go sadly awry. The Gateway appreciates the efforts of all the cover artists out there, even the morons who bit off more than they could chew. Four of the most qualified music reviewers on staff have come together to honor the successes and belittle the failures in...

The best and worst cover songs EVER!

ANDREW CUMBEE
A & L EDITOR

SARAH LEGG
ADVERTISING MGR.

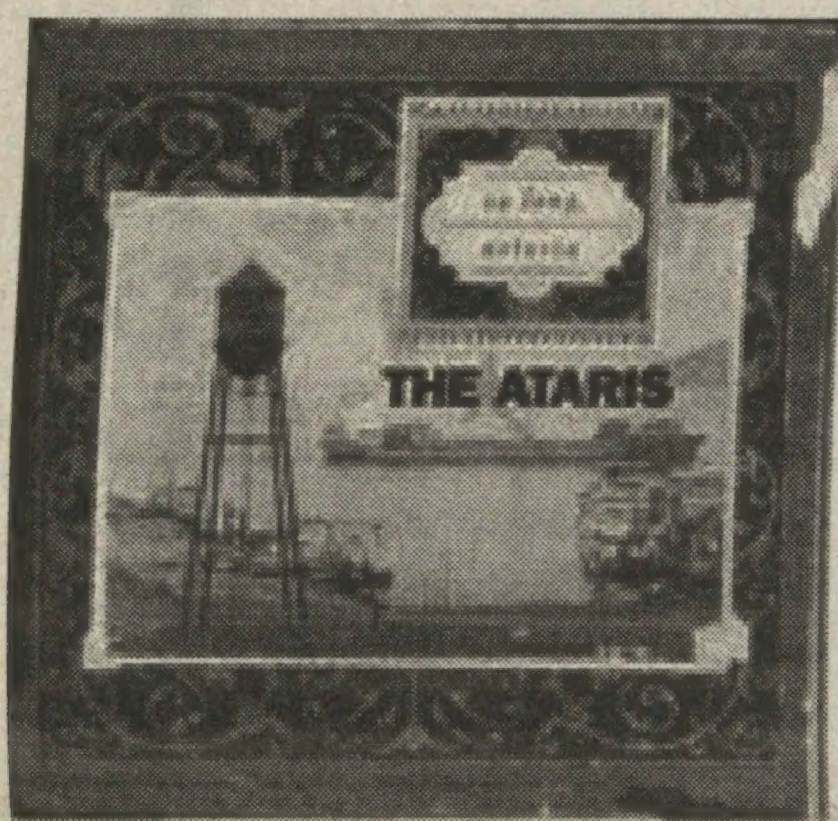
ANGI SADA
EDITOR IN CHIEF

CHARLEY REED
ASST. A&L/PEOPLE EDITOR

Disclaimer: Each reviewer has distinct musical taste. Not all readers will agree with all choices. But rest assured, each of us are geniuses in our own minds. Brace yourself, music lovers. It's about to get deep.

Angi's Picks

My list is a little more obscure and evidence of the fact that I graduated from high school when many of you were in diapers. Because of this, I have chosen to pass on the classics that top most major magazines' lists like Jimi Hendrix's version of "All Along the Watchtower" and Johnny Cash's turn at "Hurt" by Nine Inch Nails.



Top five

5. "Dear Prudence" - by The Beatles (1968), covered by Siouxsie and the Banshees (1983). Melodically true to the original, the cover makes effective use of the 15 years of technological advances between the song's original recording and the cover. And, let's face it. Siouxsie Sioux is too cool for words.

4. "Gold Dust Woman" - by Fleetwood Mac (1977), covered by Hole (1997). Hole's contribution to the soundtrack of the most tasteless movie ever, *The Crow II: City of Angels*, the cover keeps that wacky Courtney Love in check by way of an elaborate and beautiful homage to one of Love's heroes, Stevie Nicks. Love's voice is perfectly suited for this song. And double bonus: I think it may have been recorded while she was sober.

3. "Higher Ground" - by Stevie Wonder (1973), covered by the Red Hot Chili Peppers (1989). It's like an ADHD kid on Pixie Stix: Out of control energy. With its infectious groove and undeniable punk flair this cover is super fun and makes me want to jump up and down with my friends.

2. "In Between Days" - by The Cure (1985), covered by Face to Face (1996). In 1996, some higher power forgave me for all of the stupid things I had ever done and prompted the good people at Vagrant Records put together the "Before You Were Punk" series: a bunch of punks (literally) covering the best 80s new wave songs. It was a gift.

1. "Strange Fruit" - by Billie Holiday (1939), covered by The Twilight Singers (2005). The Twilight Singers are incredibly ballsy to take on this piercing commentary on racism by the First Lady of Jazz. So fitting in its original form, it is almost unthinkable that a white man could pull it off with the same kind of beauty and emotion. But lead singer and musical mastermind Greg Dulli is a no ordinary white guy.

Honorable mentions:

"Everybody Knows" - by Leonard Cohen (1988), covered by Concrete Blonde (1990).

"Lost in the Supermarket" - by The Clash (1979), covered by Afghan Whigs (1999).

"Fever" - by Little Willie John (1956), covered by Peggy Lee (1958).

"If You Leave" - by O.M.D. (1986), covered by Nada Surf (2004).

Bottom five

5. "Boys of Summer" - by Don Henley (1984), covered by The Ataris (2003). This cover misses the entire point of Henley's amazing lyrics. Vapid pretty boys should not ever try to be deep. By the way, whatever happened to the Ataris?

4. "American Pie" by Don McLean (1971), covered by Madonna (2000). I am confident enough in my hag status to say I love anything Madge touches, but this is a monstrosity and an affront to my very delicate nature.

3. "How Soon is Now" - by the Smiths (1985), covered by Love Spit Love (1998). There are some artists who should never be covered. The Smiths are their leader. No effort to match Morrissey's peerless beauty can ever succeed. This cover was lame because the original was so sweet. And because Love Spit Love should have just stayed The Psychedelic Furs.

2. "You've Got to Hide Your Love Away" by The Beatles (1961), covered by Eddie Vedder (2001). His gruff, gravelly voice doesn't belong anywhere near the soft and sweet sounds of what was a beautiful piece of the John Lennon legacy.

1. "Clampdown" - by The Clash (1979), covered by The Indigo Girls (1999). Like I have always said: "Anything with breasts and an acoustic guitar is the start of something very bad." This battle song of the working class was brutalized by the alt-folk rock terrors of the South. Normally, I love both of these bands. But, this was wrong on so many levels I am actually offended. Joe Strummer heard this version shortly before his death. Draw the connection if you must.

Cumbie's Picks

Top five

5. "Dead Souls" - by Joy Division (1979), covered by Nine Inch Nails (1994). Even the most diehard Joy Division fans will concede to NIN's superiority on this song. Nails threw the song into their signature style and made the track better with Trent Reznor's vocals.

4. "I'm Your Boogie Man" - by KC and the Sunshine Band (1977), covered by White Zombie (1996). This is what cover songs are all about. White Zombie took a song from a totally different genre, with a totally different fanbase and made it its own. It is awesome how White Zombie used the dual meaning of Boogie Man and made the song fit their Halloween shtick. Great cover.

3. "Crazy" - by Seal (1990), covered by Mushroomhead (2003). This hidden track from the alternative metal band is completely the opposite of what the band does. Mushroomhead successfully injected their signature rap/talk/scream style into an already great early 90s pop

song and made something completely unexpected, different, and new (as far as covers go, anyway).

2. "Turn the Page" - by Bob Seger (1973), covered by Metallica (1998). The original is a great classic rock song, but Metallica improved it by showing just how modern the song could be. Plus, it's Metallica, the band could do any song well.

1. "Blue Monday" - by New Order (1983), covered by Orgy (1998). As important and as big a hit as the original was, Orgy knocked this out of the park. They explored the roots of their style on this track, but showed just how much music in that genre had changed over the years. This cover has it all from the hard rock sound to the electronic backbeats.

Honorable Mentions:

"You Spin Me Round (Like a Record)" - by Dead or Alive (1985), covered by Dope (2000).

"Land of Confusion" - by Genesis (1986), covered by Disturbed (2006).

"Word Up" - by Cameo (1986), covered by Korn (2004).



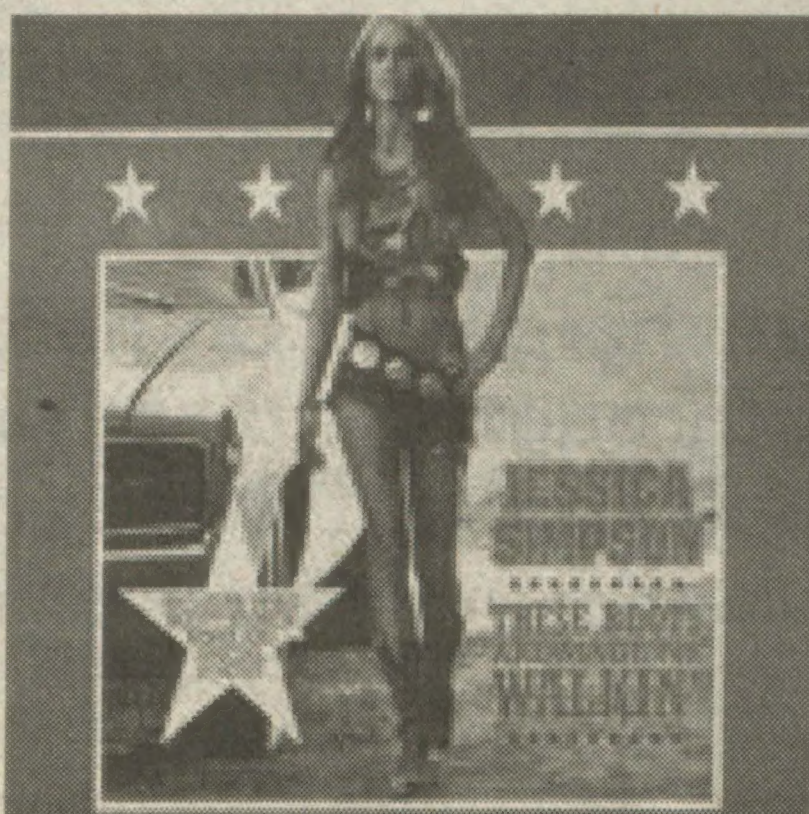
Bottom five

5. "Lovesong" - by The Cure (1989), covered by 311 (2004). The hometown boys missed the mark on this one. It's not that it's bad; it's just unoriginal and lame. Nothing is different.

4. "Another Brick in the Wall Part II" - by Pink Floyd (1979), covered by Korn (2004). Korn somehow made this song boring even though their companion piece, the cover of Cameo's "Word Up," is just the opposite. If you want a decent cover of this song, check out super-group Class of '99's version.

3. "Faith" - by George Michael (1987), covered by Limp Bizkit (1997). People can say they like this one all they want, but it's just lame until it becomes annoying with the screams at the end. Total crap. Their cover of "Behind Blue Eyes" is better.

2. "These Boots are Made for Walkin'" - by Nancy Sinatra (1966), covered by Jessica Simpson (2005). What the hell? I



understand that this song was propelled up the charts by the hot music video, but come on. It's barely a song. Horrible from the singing to the background composition and recognizable as a cover only in the lyrics, it is annoying that this is a remake. Simpson's "Take my Breath Away" was also a runner-up for this list.

1. "(I Can't Get No) Satisfaction" / "My Prerogative" - by The Rolling Stones (1965) and Bobby Brown (1988), covered by Britney Spears (2000/2004). If there are any other Britney covers, might as well add them to this list, too. "My Prerogative" came out to be a statement that Spears was a badass, but really just rang in the beginning of her new reign of suck. Her "Satisfaction" turned arguably the greatest song ever into arguably the worst song ever. Actually, make that the worst thing ever.

Charley's Picks

Top five

5. "I Fought the Law" - by The Crickets (1959), covered by The Clash (1979). For a song to even approach my list of best cover songs, the cover needs to be better than the original. This song, like the others on my list, was given its identity by the artist that covered it. The Clash took this song by the Crickets, sans Buddy Holly, and turned it into one of the premiere punk-rock anthems of all time. Hell, I didn't even know it was a cover, and that's what separates "good" cover songs from the "best" cover songs.

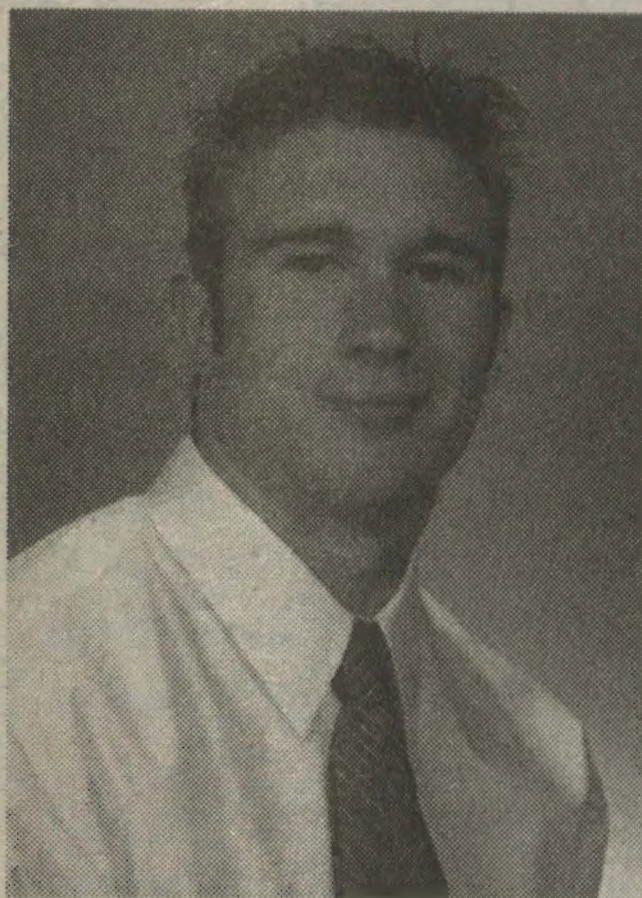
4. "Mad World" - by Tears for Fears (1982), covered by Gary Jules (2003). Another case where the cover far surpasses the original. Listening to the original Tears for Fears version, there is no emotion whatsoever and the pacing is all clunky. Despite making it to No. 3 on the UK singles charts in 1983, when Gary Jules covered it for the *Donnie Darko* soundtrack, it became a number one hit. Jules's somber take on the original dance recording is exactly what gives the lyrics a new and powerful punch.

3. "Twist and Shout" - by The Isley Brothers (1960), covered by The Beatles (1963). "Twist and Shout" is one of those songs that reached its popularity when the world-famous Beatles made it a single. Except it didn't just become a single, it became one of the greatest pop songs in music history. While the Isley Brothers' single was popular, it in no way compares to the energy that John Lennon packed into the vocals of this version.

2. "Tainted Love" - by Gloria Jones (1964), covered by Soft Cell (1981). If there was ever a true one-hit wonder, whose song continued to live on after the actual band made an impact, this is it. Originally a soul song by Gloria Jones, Soft Cell, who never had another hit afterwards, turned it into one of the signature songs of the '80s. By changing its soul base into energetic synth-pop, the record topped charts across the world and has been covered numerous times since, all using the Soft Cell version as the blueprint.

1. "Respect" - by Otis Redding (1965), covered by Aretha Franklin (1967). While some might say Jimi Hendrix's rendition of "All Along the Watchtower" is the best of the best in terms of cover

Mavs stomp Western Washington in conference opener on road



Kyle Kasperbauer

JASON GLENN
SPORTS EDITOR

After last week's shutout loss to Northwest Missouri, the UNO football team needed to get their feet back under them.

The 20th-ranked Mavericks did so in a big way, picking up 414 yards rushing and coasting to a 38-10 win over Western Washington Saturday in Bellingham, Wash.

Senior tailback Kyle Kasperbauer rumbled for a career-high 180 yards and three touchdowns and junior quarterback Zach Miller added another 130 yards on the ground and a touchdown pass to sophomore Troy Kush to help UNO move to 2-1 on the season and 1-0 in the North Central Conference.

The Mavs had no problem finding the end zone this week, scoring the first five times they touched the ball to run up a 31-0 halftime lead.

"Our first drive, I think, was probably the key to the whole game," Coach Pat Behrns said. "Once we established that we could run and mix up the pass a little bit, I think we had them off guard all day."

Miller's 38-yard touchdown

strike to Kush midway through the first quarter may have put UNO on the board, but it was the Maverick's rushing onslaught that put the game out of reach.

After the defense shut down the Vikings on their ensuing possession, the offense put together an eight-play, 67-yard drive that ended with Kasperbauer dashing 17 yards to the end zone to give UNO a 14-0 lead.

Behrns credited his defensive line, who held Western Washington to fewer than 30 rushing yards, with allowing the offense to get on the field and score points.

"You know what, I think our defensive interior played real well. Tarvis Banks, Amp Ferg, Rob Lewis, those guys played real well," Behrns said.

Early in the second quarter, Miller escaped a sack and then scored on a 73-yard scramble to make it 21-0. Kasperbauer added his second touchdown on a 15-yard run with 9:54 left in the half. Senior place-kicker Andrew McCawley drilled a 29-yard field goal to make it 31-0 going into the half.

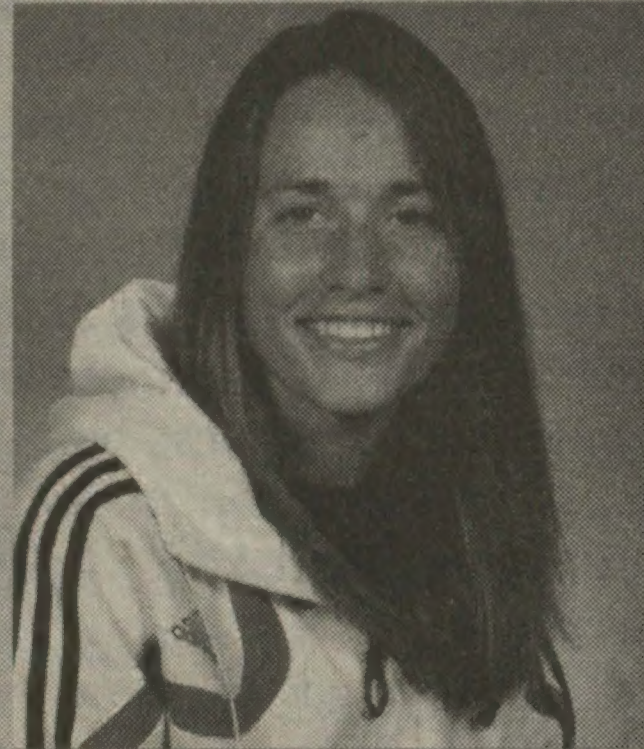
The Maverick's final score came in the third quarter when Kasperbauer completed his hat trick with a 13-yard touchdown run.

"I think that was one of Kyle's better days because he was physical," said Behrns. "It looked like the old Kyle Kasperbauer."

In last week's game, the Mavericks had multiple opportunities deep in Northwest Missouri territory but couldn't find their way into the end zone. Behrns believed his players needed to know they could not only drive the ball downfield, but also make the drive count.

"That's something we hadn't done all year is finish," Behrns said. "We felt real good about that."

Soccer shuts out Duluth, McGill becomes all-time leading scorer



Beth McGill

JASON GLENN
SPORTS EDITOR

The UNO soccer team got back in the business of shutouts and senior Beth McGill etched her name on a couple of all-time Maverick records Sunday afternoon.

The No. 1-ranked Mavericks beat North Central Conference rival Minnesota Duluth 2-0 on the road to maintain their undefeated record. Coming into the game, Duluth was 3-0 in NCC play.

"Duluth is a good team," Coach Don Klosterman said. "This is a game that we're pretty pleased to get away

with and think that a 2-0 win is pretty doggone good."

The 7-2 Bulldogs used an aggressive style to try to counter UNO's speed and athleticism, Klosterman said.

And for a good portion of the game, it worked.

"They used a little bit of force, maybe, and physicalness to try to slow us down, so that threw us off our game a little bit," said Klosterman.

The game remained scoreless until the 58:08 mark, when McGill scored her 45th career goal to tie Stephanie Kruse (1999-2002) as all-time UNO leader. Fittingly, the goal came on a highlight reel shot that most players wouldn't even think about trying.

McGill took a pass in the box from sophomore Amanda Iwansky, backed in and then unleashed a bicycle kick over the head of the Duluth goalie and into the upper corner of the net.

Klosterman, not prone to hyperbole, was significantly impressed.

"It was a phenomenal goal, just brilliant stuff," he said.

The coach was quick to add that what was important about the goal was

See **SOCCER**: Page 12

www.unogateway.com

Volleyball drops first two NCC matches on Minnesota road trip



Carlie Christensen

JASON GLENN
SPORTS EDITOR

The friendliness that Minnesota is famous for wasn't extended to the UNO volleyball team this weekend.

On the road for their first North Central Conference matches of the year, the 12th-ranked Mavericks were swept by No. 5 Minnesota Duluth Friday night and lost a five-

game nail biter to Minnesota State Mankato on Saturday. The losses dropped the Mavs to 10-4 on the season and 0-2 in the NCC.

In Friday night's match at Romano Gymnasium, mishaps prevented the Mavericks from ever really giving their higher-ranked opponents a run for their money. UNO committed 23 hitting errors against Duluth and ended up with a paltry .080 hitting percentage.

Junior Carlie Christensen was the only Mav to hit over .300, picking up nine kills on .316 hitting and adding three blocks. Freshmen Ellen Thommes and Kelli Goesser contributed seven kills apiece to the UNO offense.

The Mavericks were sharper Saturday night at Mankato, hitting .219 as a team, but still made critical miscues at the wrong times.

Up by five on two different occasions in the deciding fifth game, even making it all the way to a 14-13 match point, UNO saw their chances

See **VOLLEYBALL**: Page 11

MUSTANG Bally's

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WEDNESDAYS:
THURSDAYS:
FRIDAYS & SATURDAYS:

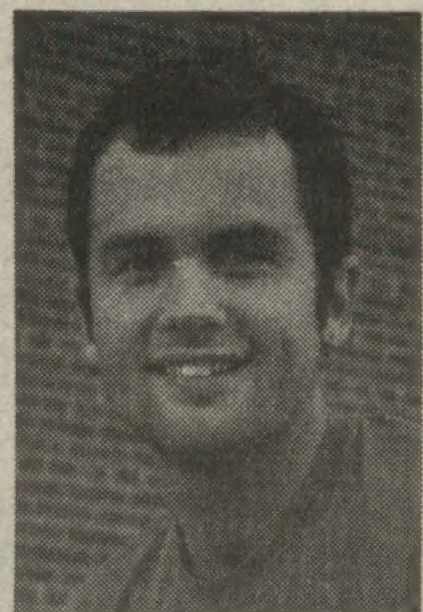
\$1.50 pints, \$1.50 off everything-Karaoke
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Free Wireless
Internet

Must Show ID to
Receive Specials

GWM seeks meaningful relationship NU should follow government's accountability example

How Typical



Michael McManus

I can't even begin to explain to you how many times I have been told that gay relationships don't work out. It used to make me upset, but I guess I've learned to accept the claim. After all, these claims are justifiable...right?

I've been treading my feet in the single waters for quite some time now. It's not because I choose to be single, but I suppose it's partly my fault because I don't really put myself out there in the dating scene. Hence, the first problem. How does a gay man make himself available? I can't go to a single group at my church looking for a partner, nor can I go to most parties and let the crowds know that I am single and looking for a relationship. My options are pretty limited.

I often feel as if I'm not taken seriously because I am single. I'm always very verbal about my support for gay marriage and same-sex parenting, though I've been without a partner for almost two years. I'm supporting something I've never really felt, and never had the opportunity to experience. What is love after all? I guess I really don't know.

It's sometimes hard to stick up for my fellow gay brothers and sisters when topics concerning relationships are brought into the spotlight. Some think gay relationships are only about sex, others think they are all about getting attention. I of course tell the people who are making these allegations that they are wrong, but it's often hard to make my point clear when I've never experienced a serious relationship myself.

The thing is, the gay community, especially in Omaha, is such a small minority group. (Some say gay and lesbians are not a minority, but instead an underrepresented group, though

when any group of people make up a majority those who do not fit into that majority are a minority). With the community being so small, there are very few ways to meet other gay and lesbian individuals. Omaha has quite a few gay bars, but who wants to meet their "someone" in a bar. I've met plenty of good-looking guys at these bars, but it's usually a bad sign when an ass grab comes before a handshake or even a simple hello.

I know there are gay men out there who want nothing more than sex, and that's fine. I also know there are straight men and women out there who are the same, but history shows that straight relationships can work out. The thing with gay individuals is the "sex-craved" gay men are the ones everyone looks at and compares the rest of us to. Gay and lesbians don't have much of a history involving successful relationships, mainly because the thought has only recently been somewhat accepted, so if someone encounters a gay guy who sleeps around they assume we all must.

Well, what about us guys on the sideline? The guys who are going to school, to church, working 2-3 jobs to secure a future for themselves and their families? Some don't even know we exist.

So, to the point of this column. Do gay relationships work out? Yes they do. I may not have any first hand experience in this area, but I can't give up. I've seen two dads holding hands. I've been to a senior gay and lesbian couples meeting. I saw two brides exchanging vows; two grooms kissing passionately. They are out there.

I know there are countless gay and lesbian individuals reading this who can relate. I guess all I can say is don't give up. It's hard being gay. Throw in living in Nebraska and being single, and it can often times be unbearable. However, we are proof that gay relationships can work out. We may be single, but we know what we want and need in life, and sharing it with our partners is a desire that we will never suppress.

Our love may be different to some, but it doesn't deny me the right to experience it.

Send questions and comments to mmcmanus@mail.unomaha.edu.

Sinister Slant



Scott Stewart

Those who know me well can testify that I do not often praise the government, but I think the U.S. Congress deserves an exception this week.

On Sept. 13, the House of Representatives approved the final version of the Federal Funding Accountability and Transparency Act of 2006. As of Sunday evening, the bill should be sitting on George W. Bush's desk in the White House.

(Pause for applause.)

The bill was approved unanimously by the Senate following much criticism by members of the so-called "blogosphere," who uncovered that two people—Sens. Ted Stevens (R-Alaska) and Robert Byrd (D-W.Va.)—had secret holds on the bill.

The fact that an obscure, anonymous parliamentary procedure had been used to slow the bill's passage was an irony not lost by even the most despicable men in Washington.

"It is deeply ironic that bipartisan legislation dedicated to transparency in government has been obstructed by the least transparent possible means," Senate Majority Leader Bill Frist (R-Tenn.) wrote in his blog, volpac.org/blog.

"So, to get this bill passed, I am calling on all members, when asked by the blog community, to instruct their staff to answer whether or not they have a hold, honestly and transparently, so I can pass this bill," he wrote.

Frist's comments came as anti-waste bloggers at Porkbusters.org conducted a systematic investigation into which

Senators had placed a hold. Interestingly enough, Porkbusters.org initially cleared Sen. Byrd on the basis of a reader's contribution.

These efforts by the blogosphere, as well as their acknowledgement by Sen. Frist and the attention given by traditional media outlets, eventually resulted in a triumph for public accountability. The final version of the bill calls for the Office of Management and Budget to create a searchable Web site database of all Federal financial awards, including grants, contracts, purchase orders and similar expenditures.

Why is any of this important, though?

For one thing, it will allow members of the press and public alike access to official documentation of government expenses. Why trust the word of a politician or a columnist when you can lookup the numbers for yourself?

Another reason why it's important is that it helps keep politicians honest. It provides a primary source of information where, eventually, all irregularities are likely to be uncovered.

Considering everything that has been going on with UNO recently—the athletics budget crisis and the related resignations of Chancellor Nancy Belck and Vice Chancellor Jim Buck—this sounds like a great idea to me.

What if the University of Nebraska had a publicly accessible Web site on which every expenditure, except maybe a few "classified" donations to the NU Foundation, was listed for anyone to review?

Would the fact that Maverick athletics was a million dollars in the red really have gone unnoticed for so long?

I don't think so.

The administration needs to make good on its promise to make UNO more transparent. The university needs to assure the public that it can be trusted.

The best way to do this is to trust the public first.

Let's follow the government's example by putting the appropriate numbers and policies online.



Gateway Editorial and letter policy

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From **COVER SONGS:** Page 8

songs, I would argue that for a cover song to truly be the best it needs to far surpass the original.

Such is the case with Aretha Franklin covering Otis Redding's "Respect." Franklin didn't simply reinterpret this song. She gave it a meaning it never had before and at the same time, provided an anthem, not just for a decade, but for an entire generation. Few have heard Otis Redding's version, but everyone, and I mean everyone, has heard and knows Franklin's signature song, "Respect."

Bottom Five

5. "Every Breath You Take" – by The Police (1983), covered by Puff Daddy featuring Faith Evans and 112 (1997). Done as a tribute to the Notorious B.I.G. in 1997, Sean Combs began perfecting a technique he would use continuously in his career of ripping off other people's songs and passing them off as his own. No greater travesty has there been from Combs than this horribly inappropriate upbeat rendition of one of The Police's signature songs.

4. "Another Brick in the Wall Part II" – by Pink Floyd (1979), covered by Korn (2004). If there was ever a song in the history of music that was done once and never needed to be done again because the song's perfection had been reached, it would be this song. Yet for some reason, Korn, who I like and respect on their own merit, decided to take this song and slaughter it for their 2004 "best of" collection.

3. "Papa Don't Preach" – by Madonna (1986), covered by Kelly Osbourne (2002). If there was ever a case of nepotism in the world of music, this would be it. It was bad enough that Ozzy's daughter got it in her head that she actually had a good voice, but when the living definition of a media whore took on a track by then anti-establishment Madonna, the song not only lost all of its original meaning, but was also physically impossible to listen to.

2. "American Pie" – by Don McLean (1971), covered by Madonna (2000). You would be hard pressed to find a more sincere tribute song than Don McLean's song about the death of Buddy Holly, Richie Valens and the Big Bopper. However, when Madonna covered this song in 2000, for God only knows what reason, it completely ruined the song for me. Not only was this a poorly chosen and poorly executed cover, but this was a high crime against a song that is a staple of Americana that will never be the same again after Madonna butchered it.

1. "Chop Suey" – by System of a Down (1999), covered by Avril Lavigne. In all of my previous "worst of" choices, at least the artist took the time to learn the words to do their cover song, but in this live version of Avril Lavigne and her "band" free styling the complicated and landmark "Chop Suey," it is so physically painful to a person's ears that they must turn off the track and immediately delete it. Never mind that Lavigne doesn't have the vocal range of Serj Tankian or that her band can't carry a tune, but she doesn't even know the f@*ing words. By far the worst cover song ever recorded.

Sarah's Picks

Top five

5. "Barbie Girl" – by Aqua (1997), covered by Homegrown (2000). What's funnier than an Asian dude mimicking Barbie in a high-pitched voice, or a metal Ken coercing Barbie to party? Nothing. That is why "Barbie Girl," by Southern California humor-pop-punkers Homegrown, gets a top spot. Homegrown covered the song way back in 2000 and made the song not suck so bad. Plus it's humorous. You can't beat that.

4. "Anti-Christ" – by Slayer (1983), covered by Less Than Jake (1999). Less Than Jake has done almost as many covers as it has originals and nothing is more metal than a fat dude playing a trombone in a Slayer song. This song starts of pretty metal (for Less Than Jake) but then, the band breaks down into a ska-based horn riff in the middle of the song, taking it from Guns N' Roses-metal to Metallica-metal. Now that's metal!

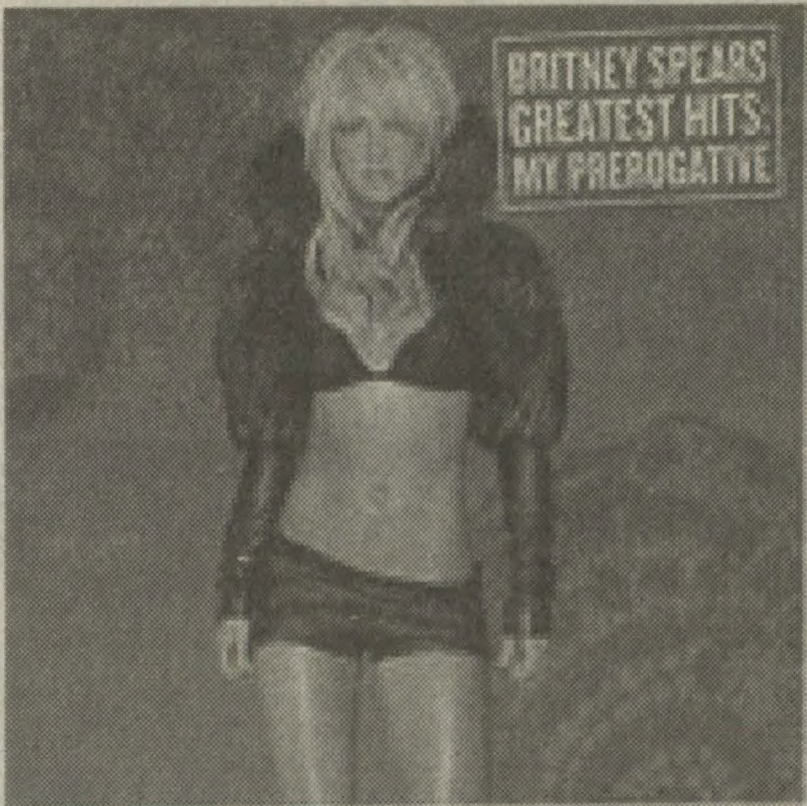
3. "Blinded by the Light" – by Bruce Springsteen (1973), covered by Manfred Mann's Earth Band (1977). Wait a minute, did he just say "wrapped up like a douche?"

2. "Just Like Heaven" – by The Cure (1987), covered by Goldfinger (1999). I love Goldfinger. I love the Cure. Wait a minute, I love this song! Unlike other covers of the Cure, speeding up the tempo actually works for this song and everytime I hear it, I think of a special night in Vegas...

1. "Twist and Shout" – by The Isley Brothers (1960), covered by The Beatles (1963). This song was pretty badass back in the day. It's hard to believe that this song came out more than forty years ago, but is still played at bars today. When a song can withstand the test of time, you know it's a good cover.

Bottom five

5. "I Love Rock N' Roll" – by The Arrows (1975), covered by Britney Spears (2002). I can't believe you people still listen to Britney Spears. Just because Joan Jett covered this song and it kicked ass doesn't mean that Britney Spears should try and be all "rock and roll." When I hear this song, I think of choking felines gargling water in a sad attempt to sound cute and save a dying career. Let's just hope that now that she's popped out a few from that white rapper dude, she'll give up and never record again. We should be so lucky.



4. All of them – by Various, covered by Sheryl Crow. Most of Sheryl Crow's career is based off of horrible covers and sad attempts at playing guitar. When will it all end? If I have to hear "The First Cut is the Deepest" one more time while shopping at the department store, I'm going to crawl up the racks and cut the speakers. Sometimes when the original is good, it just shouldn't be messed with.

3. "American Pie" – by Don McClean (1971), covered by Madonna(2000). Why? Enough said.

2. "Rocketman" – by Elton John (1972), covered by William Shatner (1978). We all love William Shatner, but when you cover a song and it's too funny to watch without laughing, well, that's not good. Leave the spoken word to Jello Biafra and focus on your acting career.

1. "These Boots are Made for Walkin'" – by Nancy Sinatra (1966), covered by Jessica Simpson (2005). If I wanted to watch soft-core porn, I would get on my computer and download it. This song just sounds stupid, Jessica Simpson sucks and if walking around like a whore made people rich, well, I'd be really poor. Again, enough of the choking cats, we need some real singers out there. Operation Ivy's cover kicked this cover's ass.

From **NADA SURF:** Page 6

for its own sake.

He added me to his Myspace.com friends within the first two minutes of our conversation. We had barely been on the phone for 15 minutes and we were tossing personal stories back and forth. We talked about the best cover songs of all time and where to download music for pennies on the dollar.

Despite his eager add, Myspace.com isn't really one of Elliot's favorite things around.

"I kind of avoid meeting fans through Myspace," he said. "Nada Surf has always been about meeting the fans, but my relationship with the fans has kind of gone backwards. As I get older I feel less inclined to meet them. It's less and less interesting to me to deal with the fans. I haven't had a lot super fan contact."

But, Elliot does admit that the occasional fan story hits home, and he is moved by the inclusion of the band in their lives.

"Occasionally people still send me amazing stories about their relationship with a song. I've heard some really heartbreaking stories, too," he said.

Elliot's aversion to the attention almost seems appropriate when you look at the band and their career. Ten years after success of their MTV-friendly hit "Popular," Nada Surf has moved slowly, yet steadily, to where they are today: critical darlings based heavily on singer and lyricist Matthew Caws' embattled songs of self-actualization. That would be impressive even if their contemporaries in the mid-90s jangle-pop scene like Toad the Wet Sprocket and the Gin Blossoms weren't playing casinos these days or just missing in action. But, they are. Elliot believes that the band's desire to persevere is what has kept them out of the casino circuit.

"I think there are a lot of reasons for that. Most bands break up after 15-20 minutes, anyway," he said. "We refused to give up and we knew that the best stuff was still coming. Entropy in bands is so easy. Things fall apart. Bands break up for financial reasons and personal reasons."

That's not to say Nada Surf hasn't seen their fair share of ups and downs. After their 1996 success with "Popular" and its corresponding album *High/Low*, the band released *Proximity Report* in 1998 to lackluster sales. Their record label at the time, Elektra, sent them packing and the band moved forward, eventually landing at Barsuk. Barsuk's roster reads like a who's who in the world of indie rock. Bands like Mates of State, Rilo Kiley and Death Cab for Cutie along with Nada Surf pepper the label's Web site.

With a new direction and the sense

From **PILLOWMAN:** Page 6

perfect mix of the macabre and comedy, fitting well with the play's theme.

All told, *The Pillowman* is one of those plays that you just need to see to fully understand. While its premise may be about a totalitarian state responding to a series of child murders, it is more about stories and what stories can do for each of us.

For Katurian, they are a catharsis, for Michal they are a pacifier, for Tupoluski they are an annoyance and for Ariel they are a last bastion of humanity in his world of corruption and deceit.

For those who do take freedom of

From **VOLLEYBALL:** Page 9

slip away as junior Nicole McLeod and Thommes made attack errors while Mankato rattled off clutch kills.

Despite the loss, Christensen had another big night. She put down a career-high 23 kills on .500 hitting and had three blocks and a service ace, as well.

Senior Stacie Wemhoff also

they had nothing to lose, their 2003 release "Let Go!" was really a place where the band could do just that; just let go, said Elliot.

"The strength of *Let Go!* is that we didn't think anyone was watching. I think after this amount of time we're less and less concerned about that kind of thing," he said.

Let Go! was swallowed up whole by reviewers and listeners alike. And then everybody was watching when, in September 2005, the band released *The Weight is a Gift*.

Produced by Chris Walla of Death Cab for Cutie, the album is carried in by Caws' introspective, yet oddly universal lyrics. Driven home by a well-manicured bottom half courtesy of bassist Daniel Lorca and Elliot, *The Weight is a Gift* is as jangly as anything the mid-90s had to offer, but is concurrently lilting and flowery. Elliot believes that much of the band's success is based in the songwriting process as much as it is the songs.

"His lyrics have always been [introspective]. [He explores] this space between how you are and how you wish you were...It's not just Matthew writing some words. He'll start with some basic idea and take it farther," he said.

Elliot, 43, believes it's this part of Caws' writing that connects the band so well to a college crowd despite their ages.

"I think that's just the state of affairs with college students. You're very angst-y. He has the angst-y sort of thing when you talk honestly without being overly emotive," he said. "I hear a lot of bands speak honestly, but they are overly emotive. We try to speak very honestly without sugar coating it."

Barsuk sent them abroad immediately. Landing on the European shores of France, where the band has always had an eager following, the trio spent the weeks before the album touring and promoting its release. Elliot calls this his least favorite part of the process, saying he hates talking about himself for hours on end.

But, it has paid off. Critics are gushing about *The Weight is a Gift*. *Esquire* called the songs on it "poignant anthems" while *Mojo* called the album "a schizo pop masterpiece." Not bad for three guys who thought no one was watching.

Not bad for a college dropout from Queens like Elliot, either.

After we laughed a bit about why I love Hole's cover of Fleetwood Mac's "Gold Dust Woman" (Elliot did acquiesce to my contention that it was a good fit for Courtney Love), we made plans to grab a drink when the band is in town on Thursday night because that's what new BFFs do.

As we hung up at 3 p.m. Elliot finally poured himself that morning cup of coffee.

speech for granted, myself included, this play will have a definitive impact on you that will last long after you leave the theater. As in my case, and why I am writing this review, you will be left with a new sense of pride and responsibility for the written word and its impact on those who read it.

The Pillowman will be running at the Blue Barn Theatre until Oct. 8; shows typically run at 7:30 p.m. Friday through Sunday, with a 6:30 p.m. show on Thursdays. Students get in at a reduced price of \$15, but any patron going to a Thursday show can get in for the flat rate of \$12.

had a career night. Continuing her strong and consistent defensive play, Wemhoff collected 27 digs, the most in her four years at UNO.

Senior Christina Reicks notched her eighth double-double of the year, with 15 kills and 22 digs, but also had 11 attack errors to record a .075 hitting percentage on the night.

From **BELCK**: Page 1

Jim Buck, former UNO vice chancellor of administration, parted company when Buck announced his retirement in August amid allegations of improper spending out of the athletics coffers.

Belck said communication between she and Buck has been limited to "a couple of e-mails," one of which preceded an *Omaha World-Herald* report in which Buck's spending reports released. Among the expenditures in question were Buck's stipends for a car lease, a membership to the Omaha Country Club, travel expenses for his wife and a nearly \$1,200 dinner in Nashville. The report on that dinner at the NCAA conference in 2005 was straw that broke the camel's back.

In a meeting with several advisors, including university legal counsel, the documents provided to the *Omaha World Herald* had some 15 edits made to them, said Belck. Those edits, the inclusion of other diners to the aforementioned dinner, proved to be the undoing of Belck's time at UNO. Belck maintains that nothing done to the reports was nefarious or done under the cover of dark, though.

"I'm not the one who entered it into the computer," she said. "It sounds like I'm there going through the records by myself. I believe [the *World Herald* report] said I was huddled late."

From **SOCCER**: Page 9

not the record it set, but the effect it had on the team's performance.

"It was emotional from the standpoint of that goal kind of sparked us a little bit and really picked up the play," said Klosterman.

The Maverick's second goal came about 14 minutes later when junior Niya Branch jabbed in her second score of the year off of a double assist from McGill and Iwansky.

The assist put McGill atop another career offensive category, this time all

Belck said the error in the process was making the notations without confirming the identities of the other diners added to the records.

Belck's director of communications in the University Affairs office, Teresa Gleason, also jumped ship in September. Gleason was not suspected of any misdirection of funds, but left for personal reasons.

While many community members believe that Belck was in the wrong and should have stepped down, she maintains that stepping down was not an admission of wrongdoing; it was a choice she made in order to avoid hampering university progress.

Belck said the university community, as well as the Omaha community, was filled with whispers about the controversy not ending until she, Buck and current Athletic Director David Herbster were gone.

"There was some discussion as early as June that there were some community leaders, as well as some boosters, who were really ready for a new era," she said. "This is not my saying it. This is people telling me that's what is [ahead]."

She is convinced that hers will not be the last office vacated, saying Herbster is not yet out of the woods.

"If I were him, I'd be looking somewhere

by herself.

It was her 113th career point and moved her one past Kruse to become the all-time UNO leader.

Still, records and accolades are not what motivate McGill, said Klosterman. She just loves to put the ball in the net.

"It's just something she enjoys doing and she does it well," said Klosterman. "As long as she keeps scoring, that's good, she's happy with that."

else," she said while setting down her glass of iced tea.

During Belck's time at UNO, the campus received a makeover like it had not seen in since it became part of the NU system in the 1960s. The development of the Peter Kiewit Institute, the addition of on-campus housing and the purchase of more than 70 acres of property for future campus expansion all happened under Belck.

It is her hope that these advances will be her legacy.

"I surely have gotten a lot of emails, phone calls and letters saying you will be remembered for transforming the university, for adding housing, for creating a very clear definition of what it means to be a metropolitan university of distinction, of placing students first, of creating the highest possible academic excellence to our engagement with the community; that's what people are telling me is going to be my legacy," she said.

But, Belck admits she is not naïve.

"There's no question it is very unpleasant to leave on the kind of note I left. And I'm not so naïve to think that won't be foremost on some peoples minds," she said.

While she maintains that her public relations team, the Board of Regents and NU President James B. Milliken all supported

her through the long, hot summer, Belck has one regret.

"I tried to answer all of the inquiries honestly. And, I guess what makes me the most disappointed is to go out questioning my integrity," she said.

Belck said she is still dedicated to seeing UNO evolve, saying she is confident the faculty can assist students ably. Above all else, she stresses that UNO faculty, staff and students should keep their eyes on the prize and their minds in the classroom because she has.

"My goal was to have this affect the students as little as possible," she said. "I really care about UNO. The reason UNO exists is to educate our students of all ages. I want them to know that I really care about the success of the university."

Belck's contract allows her to stay on the NU payroll, but is listed as on sabbatical until March 12. She plans to continue working after the sabbatical is over, saying "I'm not ready to retire yet," and that her "phone has rung off the hook" since her resignation with calls from friends and colleagues offering advice and suggestions.

But for now, she is looking forward to a quick trip to Duluth, Minn., to see her two-year-old grandson and eventually moving on to another.

From **STUDENT SENATE**: Page 1

Two resolutions were withdrawn from consideration by the senate. One called for a referendum for on the creation of a lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgendered, queer, intersex and ally student agency. The referendum was withdrawn in favor of a non-

binding opinion question regarding the agency on the October student election ballot.

The other resolution was a draft of the student government strategic plan, which was taken back to committee for revision.

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